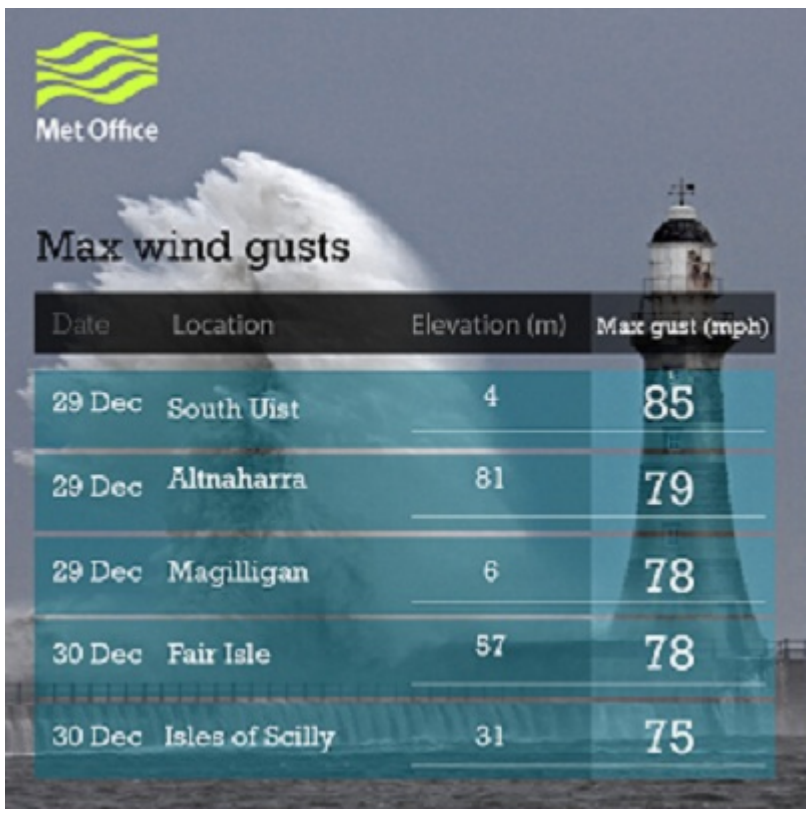
30 December 2015 - Heavy rain and strong winds associated with Storm Frank have affected many parts of the UK

During Tuesday evening and during Wednesday heavy rain and strong winds associated with Storm Frank have spread across the UK, resulting in further flooding and considerable disruption to transport and infrastructure in places.

The graphic below shows the highest wind speeds recorded overnight:


Met Office
Max wind gusts
Date Location Elevation (m) Max gust (mph)
29 Dec South Uist 4 85
29 Dec Altnaharra 81 79
29 Dec Magilligan 6 78
30 Dec Fair Isle 57 78
30 Dec Isles of Scilly 31 75

Maximum wind gusts associated with Storm Frank

24 hour rainfall totals up until 3pm 30th December 2015

Site Name	Area	Rainfall (mm)
Tyndrum	Perthshire	85.6
Cluanie Inn	Ross and Cromarty	80.0
Tulloch Bridge	Inverness-shire	76.0
Braemar	Aberdeenshire	74.6
Dalwhinnie	Inverness-shire	59.6
Balmoral	Aberdeenshire	58.2
Achnagart	Ross and Cromarty	53.6
Threave	Kirkcudbrightshire	53.0
Katesbridge	Co. Down	50.2
Keswick	Cumbria	48.4

This evening and overnight to the south of a line from approximately mid Wales to the Humber, rain will continue at times. Showers will follow the rain in northern and western areas. Some of these showers will turn wintry with squally winds across Northern Ireland and southwest Scotland for a time this evening before drier weather follows later. The wind should continue to ease overnight.

New Year's Eve (Thursday) looks to be a brighter, colder day with sunshine and showers, some heavy with hail and thunder especially during the afternoon. A cold night is then expected with a widespread frost in all parts.

Many areas should be fine and dry on New Year's Day (Friday), but cloud, rain and strong winds are likely to return from the west over the weekend.

This very unsettled and occasionally stormy spell was well signalled in our recent three month outlooks and is not unusual for this time of year, indeed this is when climatologically we would expect to have most of our storms.

We only need to go back to the winter of 2013-14 to see storms of similar strength to that of Frank. There are comparable or more severe storms in recent years, including 3 January 2012 and 8 December 2011, each of which caused widespread impacts.

Throughout this unsettled spell Met Office forecasters and advisors are working round the clock with our partners to keep everyone up to date with the latest forecast information so they can plan and prepare for the expected weather.

Last updated: 30 December 2015